

BRADFORD FAMILY

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VOYAGES OF CAPTAIN GERSHOM BRADFORD 1774 - 1844

We have no data on early voyages of apprenticeship. In 1796 he bought a quadrant, indicating that he had become a mate. A letter in 1796 states that he was in ship Three Friends, Captain Dan. Bradford.

1798 At about 24 years of age he was mate of the ship, Letter of Marque, Mary, his older brother, Gamaliel, being in command.
October. As mate of ship Mary sailed for Malaga, Spain.

1799 March 6. Engaged in a severe battle with three French privateers off Malaga. The vessel was hit aloft 81 times, no record of hits about the hull. No one was injured aboard the Mary. One of the privateers later entered Malaga to bury her dead (2) and land her wounded (13).
In the fall of this year the master, with his mate Gershom took command of the ship Industry of Boston, also a Letter of Marque.

1800 January 3. Industry at Leghorn.
11 Engaged two French privateers off Corsica. Beat them off.
February 25. At Naples. Later called at Trieste
July 8. Engaged four privateers of superior force in the Strait of Gibraltar. A severe running fight for 5 1/2 hours.
Badly cut up aloft. Captain badly wounded. Also a sailor. Mate Gershom took command. Landed Captain at Lisbon for hospitalization. Ship proceeded for Dublin.
September 24. At Dublin anchors dragged in a gale; Ship struck jetty. May have been lost.
October. Paid off crew.

1801 May 8. Boston for Dublin, bark Columbia
July 4. At Dublin
July 15. At Liverpool
August 7. At Liverpool. Bill of Lading
September 26. At Boston, Bark Columbia- delivered letter to Post Office.
October 1. Bark Columbia at Boston. Bill for survey

1802 March 18. Orion in Lisbon. Charles Henley (of Industry) was involved in this voyage.
April. At St. Petersburg.
May 9-26 At Cronstad, Russia.
Aug 18. Paid off crew of Orion.
Oct. 23. Settled a/o Orion with Captain Gamaliel, owner.
Oct 27. Received latter of instructions. Brig Lydia Head for
Nov. 21-22. At New York. Instructions. Will not be home 'till spring.
November 29. Sailed for Malaga.

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- 1803
January 6. Lydia Head at Gibraltar
January 26. " " at Malaga, 58 days from N.Y.
July 30. At Boston. Cleared the Brig Lydia Head 157t for Falmouth,
England and market Aug 24.
September 23. At London
November 1. At Coruna, Spain. Sailing for Boston next day.
- 1804
February 18. At Norfolk for Coruna, Malaga or Cadiz. Brig Lydia Head. Spanish Consul.
April 27. At Coruna. Bill for pilotage. To sail for Bayonne.
July 26. Crew list for Europe.
August 26. Date of letter to Brig Lydia Head's agent at Lisbon.
At Boston for Cadiz.
September 17. Arrived at Cadiz. Flour
October 4. At Cadiz
October 16. At Malaga.
- 1805
May 22-26. Signed crew of the Brig Lilac sailing for Malaga.
Salary \$30 a month; same for mate, but 3 1/2 %.
brimage, 3% on sales, 1/2 passender fare-
August. At Salou (Barcelona?)
September 16. At Malaga for Boston. Bill of lading.
- 1806
January 7. At Boston. Bill of Lading, Brig Lilac. G.B. owned 1/4
share.
January 8. Cleared for Baltimore. Sailed 21st.
February 7 Instructions. Brig Lilac for Oporto
February 25 Baltimore for Oporto
May 9. At Lisbon.
May 14. Lisbon for London. U.S. Consul. Fruit.
June 8. British port. Leigh Roads. Brig Lilac from Lisbon. Amos
Ames mate was seaman in Industry 1800.
June 14. London for Gothenburg
July 16. At Gothenburg
August 12. At London.
October 15. At Boston. With fish for Leghorn.
October 26. Outward bound for Leghorn.
December 6. At Leghorn, also Dec 23.
- 1807
Jan 4 and 17 at Leghorn. Probably selling fish.
February. At Gallipoli
February. At Malta. In trouble. Broke som law connected with
Gallipoli.
June 24. At Malaga.
October 27. Sailed in the Brig Mercury for Alicanti, Spain.

- 1808 Jan 1. Off Gibraltar. Taken in by boat from H.M.S. Illustrious.
 Later released after examination.
 Jan. 17. Boarded by H.M.S. Remedy and allowed to pass.
 Jan. 31. Boarded by a French privateer and allowed to pass.
 Feb. 3. His birthday. 98 days out of Boston. Boarded while in sight of the port of Alicanti, by the French privateer Josephine, Captain Joseph Bonaventure. Taken into port. Soldied guard placed on board. Sails and rudder removed. Cargo looted. Held until June 12, when the ship was released.
 June 29. Sailed for Boston
 July 10. Entered Gibraltar.
 July 11. Sailed for Boston
 August 21. Took Boston pilot. Anchored at 4 a.m.
- 1809 April 27. In the Brig Success from Boston for Marstrand.
 June 11. Arrived Liverpool
 July 1. Liverpool Bill of Lading
 July. Ready to sail for Boston.
- 1810 March 12. At Belfast, Ireland
 October. In schooner Flora for Norfolk and Cadiz. Crew list.
 November 28. Baltimore for Lisbon and St. Ubbes, Portugal.
- 1811 February 28. At St. Ubbes in schooner Flora.
 June 30. At Lisbon sailing shortly for the Mediterranean.
 October 1. Bought 1/4 Brig Patriot from Sam Frazier.
 October 4. Patriot shipped crew for Europe and Gibraltar.
 October 28. At New York for Madeira.
- 1812 January 18. Arrived at Gibraltar in Brig Patriot
 April. At Edgartown and Plymouth. Note: "Got \$110 a month with all prerequisites \$715 in 6 1/2 months."
 June 14. At Eastport, Maine.
 November 14 At Holmes Hole (Vineyard Haven)
 November 24. ENTERED the Brig Patriot at Boston
 December Sold Brig Patriot
- 1813 Apparently inactive due to the war
 December 4. Sloop John Boston for Wilmington, N.C.
- 1814 January 1. Sloop John Wilmington, N.C. for Boston
- 1815 March 24. Brig Elizabeth fitting out.
 July 18. Brig Elizabeth. Letter of instructions for voyage to Turks Island, Bahamas, for salt.
 July 28. Brig Elizabeth for Turks Island
 September 26. At New York
 November 30. Brig Elizabeth at New York.
 December. Sailing soon for Belfast, Ireland.

- 1815
 December 12 Brig Elizabeth New York for Belfast, (via Savannah?)
 December 23. At Savannah.
 December 30. A letter dated 12/30 at Boston addressed to Brig Elizabeth at Belfast. The Elizabeth was a large brig.
- 1816
 March 18. Brig Elizabeth Belfast for New York.
 May 10. Crew paid off at New York. Brig to Boston., salt.
1817.
 January 21. Brig Elizabeth at Savannah. Still there on February 2.
 March 2. Brig Elizabeth Savannah for Liverpool
 June 4. At Liverpool. Paid pilotage into Liverpool on June 10th
 Loading 1,000 pieces earthenware.
 June 21. Elizabeth Liverpool for Boston. Note: Captain Gamaliel
 Bradford was the managing owner of the Brig Elizabeth.
 October 22. At Boston
 November 14. At Savannah.
- 1818
 March 14. Brig Elizabeth at Savannah loading cotton.
 April, early in the month, the brig sailed for Liverpool and arrived
 on May 9, after 36 days passage.
 May 13. The brig at Liverpool
 June 4. Ready to sail for New York
 June 6. Still at Liverpool. She brought emigrants on this passage.
 The list of passengers has been preserved.
 July 11. Paid Light Dues at Cork, Ireland.
 August 29. Arrived at New York from Liverpool with 49 passengers.
- 1819
 January Schooner Cowlstaff sailed from Duxbury to New York.
 June. Schooner Cowlstaff ready to sail for Leghorn, Italy
 November. Schooner at Livorno (Leghorn)
 November 13. Schooner at Palermo, Sicily
 December 18. Still at Palermo.
- 1820
 April (?) Brig Sicily Boston for Palermo
 September 1. At Boston. Brig Sicily for Trieste
 September 8. Date of crew list for Trieste and ready to sail
 October 29. At Trieste
 November 23. At Trieste. Brig Sicily for Palermo and Boston
 Taken aboard a consignment of Spanish dollars.
- 1821
 January 8. At Palermo from Trieste
 January 23. Still at Palermo
 May 25. At Boston with goods for Baltimore
 June 13. Brig Sicily at Baltimore for Halifax, Labrador, for
 fish for Sicily.
 June 14. Date of manifest for Halifax.
 July 21. Brig Sicily at Halifax, N.S.
 August 27. At Bradore for fish
 September 15. At Bradore loading fish for Palermo, Sicily

- 1821 December 18. At Palermo for Boston
December 21. At Messina
- 1822 January 12. Brig Sicily at Messina.
January 17. Sailing in a week
January 22. Crew list of brig at Messina
March 21. Spoken, Brig Sicily, Bradford 59 days out of Messina
April 5. Arrived at Boston 75 days out from Messina
April 13. At Boston for Palermo. Brig Sicily
April 22. Bill of lading for Palermo
September 5. Boston for Trieste. coffee 5% primage
September 7. Cleared for Trieste
November 2-30. Brig Sicily at Trieste. Captain sick. Cleared
for Messina.
December 23. At Messina
- 1823 January 14. Brig Sicily at Messina
April 2. Arrived at Boston from Messina
April 16. Off Boston Light. Brig Sicily for Amsterdam. George
P. Bradford was a passenger.
May 26. At Amsterdam sailing for New Rochelle.
June 10-21. At New Rochelle. Sailed on the 21st for Boston.
September 12. Brig Sicily, Boston for Trieste.
- 1824 November 25. Was in the Brig La Grange of which Captain Gershom
had bought 1/2 interest from Samuel Frazer
November 27 Bill of lading Boston for Norfolk. Glassware
December 10-23. At Norfolk
December 22. At City Point, Virginia.
December 30-January 14. Loading cotton. Liverpool.
- 1825 March 24. At Liverpool. Plants and seeds, wearing apparel.
(Capt. \$100 a month.)
June 2. At New York to take command of the Brig Margaret for
his brother-in-law, Ezra Weston.
July 21, 23, August 1. At Antwerp in Brig Margaret.
- 1826 September 5. In Brig Margaret. no information
It is probable that this was his last ship and he
retured to his home at Duxbury, where he died in 1844.